The University of Chicago



Celebration

Symposium on Atherosclerosis

in honor of Dr. Robert W. Wissler

The University of Chicago Medical Center Chicago, Illinois May 7 & 8, 1992

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

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Program Thursday May 7

8:00 am Bus Transportation from the Knickerbocker Hotel to The University of Chicago 8:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

Session I: Human Atherosclerosis Chair: Henry C. McGill, Jr., M.D. Scientific Director, Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research

9:00 am	Greetings and Opening Remarks	10:45 am	Refreshments
	Billings Auditorium-Room P-117	11:10 am	Quantitative Results of Mesenchymal Constituents
9:15 am	Living with Plaques: Where and		Related to Lesion Progression
	How does Atherosclerosis		in White Male Youth
	Cause Clinically Manifest		Edward J. Miller, Ph.D., Professor
	Disease	•	of Biochemistry, University of Alabama, Birmingham
	Seymour Glagov, M.D., Professor, Department of Pathology,	4.1	Auoumu, birmingnum
	The University of Chicago	11:30 am	Correlations of Microthrombi
•	,		and the Distribution of SMC
9:55 am	Atherosclerosis in Youth-		Phenotypes in the Arterial
	Natural History and Risk	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	Intima of Youth
	Factors		A. Bleakley Chandler, M. D.,
	Jack P. Strong, M.D., Boyd Professor, Head,	* .	Professor and Chairman, Department of Pathology, Medical
	Department of Pathology,	- 1,	College of Georgia
	Louisiana State University	• • •	
		11:50 am	Vasoactive Agents, Mast Cells,
10:15 am	Computer Assisted Macro-and		and Their Relationship to
	Micro-Morphometry in Under-		Atheromatous Lesion
	standing Progression of Atherosclerotic Plaques in Youth		Progression in Young People Renu Virmani, M.D., Chairman,
	I. Fredrick Cornhill, D. Phil.,		Department of Cardiovascular
*	Director, Biomedical Engineering		Pathology, Armed Forces
	Center, Professor of Surgery and		Institute of Pathology
	Pathology, Chairman, Department		
	of Biomedical Engineering and	12:15 pm	Luncheon
*	Applied Therapeutics, Ohio State		
	University and The Cleveland Clinic Foundation		
	Cititle 1 onimation		

Afternoon Program Thursday, May 7

1:30 pm	Genes That Affect Lipid Risk Factors and Arterial Lesions in Young Persons James E. Hixson, Ph.D., Associate Scientist, Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research	3:30 pm	Lp(a) and Human Atherothrombosis Angelo Scanu, M.D., Professor, Departments of Medicine and Bio- Chemistry and Molecular Biology, Director: Lipoprotein Study Unit,
1:50 pm	Lymphocyte Subsets in Human	. *	The University of Chicago
	Coronary Atherogenesis Abel L. Robertson, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.,	4:15 pm	Lipid-lowering, Plaque Instability and Clinical Events: New
	Professor of Pathology,		Insights Into Prevention of
	University of Illinois, Chicago		Coronary Artery Disease B. Gregory Brown, M.D., Ph.D.,
2:10 pm	Macrophages, Lipid Deposition,		Professor of Medicine and
, -	and Lesion Progression in Coro-	- ·	Cardiology, University of
	nary and Aortic Atherosclerosis in Young People		Washington, Seattle
	Robert W. Wissler, M.D., Donald	5:00 pm	
•	N. Pritzker Distinguished Service		University of Chicago to the
	Professor Emeritus, Department of		Knickerbocker Hotel
	Pathology, Immunology and Human Nutrition/Nutritional	7.00	Bosontian/Dimens of The Ducke
	Biology and the College,	7:00 pm	Reception/Dinner at The Drake Hotel (Optional)
•	The University of Chicago		Hotel (Optional)
2:30 pm	Discussion of PDAY Results		
3:00 pm	Refreshments		

Program Friday May 8

8:00 am Bus Transportation from the Knickerbocker Hotel to The University of Chicago 8:30 am Continental Breakfast

Session II: Molecular Mechanisms of Atherogenesis

Chair: Earl P. Benditt, M.D., Professor Emeritus

Department of Pathology, Distinguished Physician, Veterans Administration, University of Washington, Seattle

> 9:00 am Greetings and Opening

> > Remarks

Billings Auditorium-Room P-117

9:10 am Overview of Cellular and Molecular

> Mechanisms of Atherogenesis Russell Ross, D.D.S., Ph.D., Professor and Chairman of Pathology, School of Medicine, University of Washington,

Seattle

9:45 am Lipoproteins and Gene Expression

in the Vessel Wall

Alan Fogelman, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Chief, Division of Cardiology, University of California, Los Angeles

10:25 am Refreshments

10:50 am Modified Lipoproteins and

Atherogenesis

Joseph Witztum, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine, University

of California, San Diego

11:30 am Endothelial Biology in

Atherogenesis

Peter Davies, M.D., Professor, Department of Pathology,

The University of Chicago

12:15 pm Luncheon

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT W. WISSLER

By Dr. Godfrey S. Getz

Robert Wissler's contributions to the discipline of pathology and to the pathology of atherosclerosis have few parallels. In honoring Robert Wissler, we honor an untiring advocate of research and training in these fields, not to speak of his own important research contributions.

After graduating from Earlham College in Indiana in 1939, Robert Wissler entered the University of Chicago School of Medicine that same year. His studies were interrupted during World War II when he withdrew to do Armed Forces-sponsored nutritional and immunologic research for which he received civilian honors in 1944.

After earning his M.S., Ph.D., and M.D. degrees from the University of Chicago, Robert Wissler remained in the University's Department of Pathology. In 1957 he was named full professor and Chairman of the Department of Pathology, a position he held for 15 years. He continues his activity as Emeritus Donald N. Pritzker Distinguished Service Professor of Pathology.

There are for one individual, a large number of arenas in which Bob Wissler has made signal contributions to his discipline broadly conceived—research, research training, training in pathology, education in the dietary prevention of atherosclerosis, support of the missions of the American Heart Association and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. Added to all of these accomplishments is his loyal and generous spirit in support of colleagues and students and their human aspirations. Robert Wissler has been active and energetic in support of so many causes that it is difficult to write briefly of his life of accomplishments.

Robert Wissler's research on the pathobiology of atherosclerosis is notable for several important observations—the central role of the multifunctional smooth muscle cell, the involvement of the macrophage in the plaque, the ability of low density lipoprotein from hyperlipidemic animals to promote cell proliferation. He enthusiastically promoted the unique advantages of studying atherosclerosis in non-human primate models. He and Draga Vesselinovitch have noted the particular role of different food fats in fashioning the nature of the atherosclerotic plaque. They were in the vanguard of investigators demonstrating the regression of atherosclerosis in non-human primates by dietary manipulation and drug therapy. This has foreshadowed the several clinical studies which have made similar observations in man. Robert Wissler was the founding scientific director of the University of Chicago's Specialized Center of Research in Atherosclerosis, a center which continues to flourish at the University. He

retired as its director in 1981, only to devote his energy, optimism and determination to the establishment of a large multicenter cooperative study on the "Pathobiological Determinants of Atherosclerosis in Youth" which is a major topic of today's symposium. This is a landmark accomplishment which will fuel many future studies of human atherosclerosis.

Robert Wissler has organized and participated in many national and international symposia on atherosclerosis. Through his own research contributions and these organizational activities he has helped to shape the nature of the questions and initiatives in atherosclerosis research. He has also applied his energy to organizations whose mission was to pursue research and education of the public in relation to cardiovascular disease. At the University of Chicago, he also served as Chairman of the Committee on Human Nutrition and Nutritional Biology. The Chicago Heart Association of which he was President, has benefited from his enthusiasm and advocacy. At the American Heart Association he held many offices including the chairmanship of the Council on Arteriosclerosis. He received the Award of Merit of the American Heart Association in 1971. In addition, he has served in many advisory functions to the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute and several journals. Among his many awards is the American Medical Association Joseph B. Goldberger Award in Human Nutrition.

Robert Wissler has devoted a good proportion of his energy to the education of young people as well as colleagues to whom he successfully transmitted the excitement of research in pathology. He was the founding program director of the NHLBI training grant in Cardiovascular Pathophysiology which continues its important training mission at the University of Chicago. It is notable that his collaborations have extended beyond the borders of the United States to several European countries, Australia and Japan. He has served as a visiting professor in many parts of the world, including Switzerland, Japan and Australia-where he endeared himself to students as he has done in Chicago. Through these and other efforts he has fostered international cooperation. His career encompassed the postwar years, when all European scientists, including those of Germany and Italy, as well as scientists from Japan faced the difficult task of reestablishing a creditable research effort and reintegration into the world scientific community. Bob Wissler helped to organize and served on many of the international committees that developed meetings, exchanges, and collaborations, while he himself set the example by welcoming numerous overseas investigators to his own laboratory. More than 150 students from undergraduates to residents have passed through his laboratory over the last forty years and have been stimulated by his enthusiasm and devoted mentorship. Many now have academic positions. All the students and colleagues who have had occasion to work with him have been impressed

with his enthusiasm, his hard work, his generosity and his loyalty. The hospitality of Betty and Bob Wissler is memorable. Guests to Chicago were always entertained at their home. Over the past 30 years he has been the articulate advocate of prudent dietary habits, of which he was an exemplar. Indeed, dining at the Wissler home was a pleasant and painless culinary education.

As though these activities were not sufficient to engage the energy of one man, his contributions to organized pathology have been very substantial. Indeed his history has paralleled the recent history of organized pathology. The Department of Pathology at the University of Chicago flourished during his leadership. He was a co-founder of the Association of Pathology Chairmen and of the Universities Associated for Research and Education in Pathology, both of which are organizations he served as President. He has been chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. He was also president of the American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists (1967-1968). He spent many years on the American Board of Pathology, serving as its President in 1979 to 1980. His many contributions were recognized by the award of the gold cane of the American Association of Pathologists in 1983. Locally, he has served as president and influential member of the Chicago Pathology Society and was a prime mover in the successful effort to upgrade forensic pathology in Illinois.

Robert Wissler's contributions have been widely recognized. He has received honorary degrees from five universities in the U.S. and Europe—Earlham College (1959), his undergraduate alma mater, upon whose Board of Trustees he has served for many years; University of Heidelberg (1973); University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (1981); University of Sienna (1982) and Ohio State University (1990).

Anyone who has served on a committee or collaborated scientifically with Bob Wissler or has been under his direction, will attest to his readiness to go beyond the formal associations in order to set the tone for establishing a high degree of congeniality, mutual confidence, and consensus. As a citizen, he has been consistently courageous over the years in taking sides against injustice and oppressive institutions, even when it was not popular to do so. He does not hesitate to use his influence to help effect civic change when he thinks there is a need.

In honoring and recognizing Robert Wissler, we also pay tribute to his wife, Elizabeth Polk Wissler, who has been by his side throughout his life at the University of Chicago. Her generosity and understanding have endeared her to all whose lives they have touched. Knowing and working with Bob Wissler brought with it the privilege of knowing and learning from Betty Wissler.

We would like to extend Bob many good wishes for his 75th birthday.